

As from
this hour
You use your
power,
The World
must follow
you

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH
CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE

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MEETINGS 1st & 3rd SUNDAYS 7 P.M.

THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

Official Organ of Motor Transport and Allied Workers Industrial Union Local 544-CIO
MINNEAPOLIS OFFICE: 8TH ST. AND 12TH AVE. S.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1941

Stand all in
one
Till right
is done!
Believe and
dare and do!

FIVE CENTS

Prosecution Shows Anti-Labor Bias in Trial

Miners End Strike Under Army Threat

Captive Coal Mine Strikers End One-Week Strike Monday; Agree to Arbitrate Their Demand for Union Shop Through Three-Man Board Composed of Lewis, Steelman, Fairless

After their one-week strike, during which the "captive" coal miners felt the full weight of the employing class and the government, the 53,000 captive miners and the 200,000 commercial miners who came out in sympathy with the strike against the Steel barons, members called off their strike last week-end and accepted a White House proposal for arbitration of the union shop issue by a special three-man board.

The Policy Committee of the United Mine Workers, meeting Sunday afternoon, accepted the proposal to end the strike, and directed strikers to return to work Monday morning.

Despite continuous threats from President Roosevelt to call out the Army against the strike, and to unleash a wave of anti-labor legislation in Congress, the UMW stood firm throughout the week in defense of the union shop, the issue over which the strike was fought. Several proposals from Roosevelt to end the strike were rejected by the militant miners and their president, John L. Lewis.

Not until Saturday morning did the President make a proposal which the union Policy Committee found it possible to accept. In his last of many open letters to Lewis, Roosevelt for the first time proposed three specific names of members of the three-man arbitration board: John L. Lewis, Benjamin Fairless (president of U. S. Steel Corporation), and as the third man, John R. Steelman, director of the United States Conciliation Service. Steelman, as conciliator, supported the union shop for the soft coal miners in the controversy of 1938.

Under the given circumstances—the state of the union movement, and the reactionary political atmosphere, Roosevelt's preparation to call out the army to break the strike, the treachery of the AFL top leaders in denouncing the strike and voting against the miners' demand in the National Defense Mediation Board, the all-out support of the profiteering Steel Trust by the national administration—it must be said that the United Mine Workers were justified in calling off the strike and submitting to arbitration before a three-man board of the character finally specified by Roosevelt.

**Lewis Denounces
Mediation Board**

In announcing the action of the union Policy Committee, Lewis

"Some of the men down here didn't care no more for Mr. Roosevelt than they did for scabs," the N. Y. TIMES for October 24th reported miners in Pennsylvania as stating.

Earlier Proposals Rejected

Before accepting the White

In Mine Dispute Steel Companies Won't Abide by Board Decision

Following reports from Republic Steel and National Steel that they would not abide by the decision of the three-man board arbitrating the captive coal mine dispute, negotiations halted Thursday while Chairman John Steelman wired the nine steel corporations to clarify their position.

Action of the steel firms comes as a surprise only to those who failed to see that Roosevelt directed all his pressure against the United Mine Workers throughout this fight, and misdirected the public's attention from the stubborn refusal of the Steel Trust to grant the justifiable demand of the miners for union shop.

At press time it is not known whether the steel companies will alter their stand. Should they refuse, the miners will be forced to re-strike the captive mines, for years.

Roosevelt daily threatened the strikers with 50,000 soldiers—equipped with pistols, rifles, sub-machine guns and possibly some bombs," the N. Y. Times for November 20th made clear.

Daily he threatened the CIO with anti-labor legislation. And after the strike was over, on Monday, he was reported as urging Congress to pass anti-labor legislation.

Efforts of the President and his followers to continue masquerading as "friends of labor" are mighty threadbare indeed, though they are still being made.

Last week, for instance, a "White House adviser" reported Roosevelt was holding back the Army "because he is a friend of the working man and does not want to do anything to destroy the working man's confidence."

Miners Not Fooled

That such hypocrisy did not fool the miners was indicated even in the reports of the boss press.

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"didn't care no more for Mr. Roosevelt than they did for scabs," the N. Y. TIMES for October 24th reported miners in Pennsylvania as stating.

Continued on page 3

CIO CONVENTION DENOUNCES OPM; PLEDGES UCWOC SUPPORT

The CIO national convention, which concluded its session last week in Detroit, included among its more important activities the overwhelming approval of a resolution denouncing the Office of Production Management, of which Sidney Hillman is co-director, and a sweeping endorsement of the CIO United Construction Workers Organizing Committee.

Though considered a compromise resolution by the UCWOC, which had demanded the inclusion in it of a call for the ouster of traitor Hillman from his post in the OPM, the resolution was nevertheless seen as a stiff blow to Hillman and the anti-labor OPM.

Text of Resolution

Excerpts from the resolution follow:

"WHEREAS (1) The United Construction Workers Organizing Committee has been duly chartered by the Congress of Industrial Organization, and thereby constitutes an affiliate organization of the CIO entitled to all the rights,

privileges and cooperation extended to all CIO affiliated organizations; and

"(2) The UCWOC as an affiliated organization of the CIO is entitled to receive the whole-hearted and organized cooperation and support from every affiliated organization and member of the CIO; and

"(3) The consummation of the so-called stabilization agreement between the OPM and its officials and the Building Trades Department of the AFL, which agreement effectively prohibits members of the UCWOC

from obtaining work on national defense construction; and that this convention denounces the OPM and its officials in entering into an agreement with the Building Trades Department of the AFL, which agreement effectively prohibits members of the UCWOC

from obtaining work on national defense construction; and that this convention denounces the OPM and its officials for their represen-

able bidders on the Wayne County

(Mich.) housing project, for the sole reason that this company had

entered into a collective bargain-

ing arrangement with the UCWOC, and this constitutes a vicious example of illegal discrimination against the UCWOC upon the part of the officials of the OPM; and

"(4) If this action of the OPM is permitted to stand unchallenged, a dangerous precedent will have been established which will wreak havoc not only upon the UCWOC but upon every affiliated organization of the CIO, and will constitute a vicious act of discrimination by government against the CIO as contrasted with other segments of labor; and will, in effect, nullify the principles set forth in the National Labor Relations Act, which permits the right of free choice of bargaining representation to all workers, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: (1) That this

convention condemns the action of the OPM and its officials in entering into an agreement with the Building Trades Department of the AFL, which agreement effectively prohibits members of the UCWOC

"(2) That this convention directs its national officers to make forthright representation immediately and continuously to the responsible officials of the OPM and to the President of the United States demanding that the discriminatory stabilization agreement be nullified in its entirety; and

"(3) THAT IT IS THE DESIRE AND INSTRUCTION OF THIS CONVENTION TO ALL MEMBERS AND ALL AFFILIATED BODIES OF THE CIO THAT THEY EXTEND TO THE UCWOC THEIR WHOLEHEARTED, SINCERE AND ORGANIZED SUPPORT IN ITS EFFORT TO BRING CLEAN INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY; AND THAT THIS CONVENTION BELIEVES THAT A SUCCESSFUL ORGANIZING CAMPAIGN BY THE UCWOC WILL PROVE BENEFICIAL TO EVERY AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION OF THE CIO AND WILL PROVIDE HOMES FOR CIO MEMBERS AT A COST WHICH THEY CAN AFFORD TO PAY; AND WILL RELIEVE OPPOSITION TO THE ORGANIZATION DRIVE OF ALL AFFILIATED UNIONS; AND WILL GREATLY ASSIST IN ACCOMPLISHING THE GOAL OF THE CIO AS ENUNCIATED BY THE SLOGAN: 'TEN MILLION MEMBERS BY 1945.'

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Roy Orgon



Miles Dunne



Ray Rainbolt



Slanders 544 1934 Strikes

Prosecution Says WPA Workers Had
No Right to Organize; Tries to Stir
Anti-Labor Feeling in Jury

Prosecution cross-questioning of Local 544-CIO witnesses for the defense, and U. S. District Attorney Anderson's final argument, this week revealed the anti-labor bias of the prosecution more crudely than ever before during the "sedition" trial of 23 members of Local 544-CIO and of the Socialist Workers Party.

In his final argument Anderson repeated all the Associated Industries' slanders as he reviewed the activities of each of the 23 defendants in the labor movement, and sought to arouse every anti-labor prejudice that might exist among the jurors.

In asking the conviction of Ed Palmquist and Roy Orgon, leaders of Local 544's Federal Workers Section, Anderson went so far as to deny that WPA workers have a right to organize. "Why did WPA workers need a union? The government takes care of WPA," ranted Anderson, and concluded that "the only purpose of the Federal Workers Section was to seize power, to take over Minneapolis."

At another point Anderson spoke so viciously against

strikes that the defense had to ask Judge Joyce to instruct the jury that the right to strike still exists. In this "national emergency," Anderson had told the jury, the jurors "could find" that the defendants had fomented strikes for "unreasonable demands" and such strikes, if the jurors found the demands unreasonable, were "part of the seditionous conspiracy."

A request by defense counsel to the judge to strike out this viciously anti-labor speech of Anderson was rejected.

Read Goldman's Summary for the Defense Next Week

As we go to press today, Friday, Defense Attorney Goldman, himself a defendant, is in the midst of his summation speech in the "sedition" trial. Observers say that his speech is one of the greatest ever heard in a labor trial. We will print sections of it in next week's Industrial Organizer. Don't miss it.

tracts covering more than 250,000 over-the-road drivers and 800 employees.

Dobbs explained that the defendants' trade union policy favored direct negotiations between unions and employers as the most favorable method of winning gains for the workers. At times, however, Dobbs explained, it was necessary and permissible for unions to arbitrate certain issues.

Dobbs Spikes Schweinhaut

In this encounter Schweinhaut came off second-best, for Dobbs testified as an expert in this field, having negotiated and signed hundreds of union contracts. Dobbs was spokesman for the 11-state Area Committee which signed con-

(Continued on page 4)

Twelve Members of Local 544 Take Stand for Defense; Their Appearance and Testimony Impress Observers

Among the witnesses to take the stand for the defense in the "sedition" trial were twelve members of Local 544, five of them defendants. In sharpest contrast to the Tobin-paid riff-raff who testified for the prosecution, the dozen defense witnesses were the finest type of union men—clean-cut, alert, honest, stable workers, the kind whose efforts and sacrifices in the interests of labor have made Minneapolis a union town.

All union men to testify for the defense have long and honorable records in the labor movement; all are known and respected on the job, as good workers and good union men.

By their testimony they cut to ribbons the perjured story told by the Tobin agents that the Union Defense Guard was organized to overthrow the United States government.

In the order of their appearance, these are the 544 members who testified for the defense:

Kenneth McKenzie—Long-time UDG was formed to protect the union and union headquarters against fascist attacks.

Ole Reiersen—Cement block worker, joined 544 in July, 1936. Joined Union Defense Guard in 1938, to defend union and union hall against Silver Shirts. Attended UDG meetings, but never heard anyone say the UDG was organized to overthrow the government.

Farrell Dobbs—Organizer and recording secretary, 544-CIO. Testified that the defense was elected chairman of guard.

Ray Rainbolt—Organizer and recording secretary, 544-CIO. Testified that the defense was elected chairman of guard.

Miles Dunne—President of 544-CIO, former secretary-treasurer of Local 544 and later International Organizer of the teamsters, Schweinhaut charged that Dobbs and the other defendants were constantly fomenting unnecessary strikes by instructing their followers never to accept arbitration in labor disputes.

Farnell Dobbs—Former secretary-treasurer Local 544 and 544-CIO. Testified that the defense was elected chairman of guard.

Harold Martin—Works at New England Furniture. Joined 544 in April, 1936; was job steward. Remembers hearing Ray Rainbolt tell UDG meeting that purpose of guard was to defend union against anti-labor groups, and to usher at union picnics and union Christmas parties for children.

The UDG stopped meeting early in 1939, after Silver Shirts disappeared.

Dick Atherton—Driver at Borchert-Richter for 12 years. Joined 544 in May, 1934; job steward; leader of 544's orchestra. Joined UDG when formed. Heard short talks about need of guard to defend union headquarters against Silver Shirt raids. Union orchestra played for Turkey Round-up given by UDG.

Captain in Defense Guard Gustave Reiersen—Joined 544 in spring of 1936; in June, 1941, transferred to Cement Finishers Local 557. Cement-block maker at Hedberg - Freidheim's since 1932. Captain in UDG, attended 6-8 meetings. "We felt our union

was in danger from the Silver Shirts."

Union Stewards Testify Harold Martin—Works at New England Furniture. Joined 544 in April, 1936; was job steward. Remembers hearing Ray Rainbolt tell UDG meeting that purpose of guard was to defend union against anti-labor groups, and to usher at union picnics and union Christmas parties for children.

The UDG stopped meeting early in 1939, after Silver Shirts disappeared.

Blair Earnings His Salary Blair took a job with the Gamble-Robinson Company as "labor relations expert." Last Thursday

Strike Was Chief Weapon of CIO Unions During Year

All CIO Unions Make Great Gains

CIO Convention Endorses Program to "Organize the South," Launches Drives in Oil, Aircraft Industries

Relying mainly on labor's chief weapon—the strike and readiness to strike—the unions of the CIO can look back over a year of substantial gains for labor, gains won from the employers on a score of far-flung battlefronts stretching from Hoboken to Los Angeles. From the successful Ford strike of last spring to this month's strike of the captive coal miners in defense of the union shop, the army of the CIO can look with pride upon the organizational successes of the past twelve months, successes far beyond the means of the horse-and-buggy craft unionism of the AFL.

The annual CIO convention which ended last week in Detroit was an occasion for summing up the gains of the year. Practically every affiliate of the CIO could point with satisfaction to new thousands of members, new wage gains wrested from the exploiters, new self-respect and independence won by the workers.

Ford Victory Greatest

High on the list of historical achievement of the CIO was the smashing victory of the Ford workers, organized in the United Auto Workers. Winning their militant and cleverly-conducted strike last spring, the Ford workers went on in a labor board election to choose CIO over the AFL by a majority of five-to-two. On June 20th the auto workers signed with the Ford company what has been described as the best contract in the industry.

Miners Crack the South

On another front last April, the soft coal miners of the United Mine Workers dug in, 400,000 strong, against a boss lockout last April, converted the lockout into a strike, and smashed through to a victory which won \$1-a-day raises, and vacations with pay for the first time in the industry's history.

The miners rang up an even more important achievement on July 7th when the Southern Appalachian coal operators were forced to abolish the reactionary 51-year-old Southern differential in wages.

Bolstered by the victories of the bituminous miners, the 100,000 hard coal miners boosted their pay 10 per cent.

Several months ago the UMW gas, coke, chemical and paper branch—known as District 50—launched an intensive drive to organize the one million workers within its jurisdiction.

Crack Little Steel

Thanks to the strike victories of the miners, the Steel Workers Organizing Committee was able to chalk up wage gains of 10 per cent.

Unions Contribute To Defense of 23

Below is a partial list of unions, both AFL and CIO, which have contributed money and resolutions to the defense of the twenty-three people now on trial here in federal court for "sedition."

These unions have been visited by delegations from the Civil Rights Defense Committee in all parts of the country. In several cases, the visit by the Civil Rights Defense Committee was the first the union men and women had heard of the case, so tight is the veil of secrecy drawn by the national press around the case in an attempt to keep the union movement from knowing what is happening in Minneapolis.

The list follows:

Steel Workers

Organization Committee

Phoenix Brass Workers Union, Local 462, Newark, N. J.

Inland Local, No. 1010, E. Chicago, Ind.

Wickwire Spencer, Local 1060, Buffalo, N. Y.

Feddler's Local 1752, Buffalo, N. Y.

Buffalo Machinery Lodge 2017, Local 1339, Jersey City, N. J.

United Auto Workers

Fisher Body, Local 45, Cleveland, Ohio.

Plymouth, Local 51, Detroit, Mich.

Local 88, Cleveland, Ohio.

Local 102, East Claire, Wis.

Local 198, Cleveland, Ohio.

Local 407, Milwaukee, Wis.

Ford Local 425, Buffalo, N. Y.

Local 486, Cleveland, Ohio.

Local 490, Highland Park, Mich.

Local 511, Newark, N. J.

Local 764, Elkhart, Ind.

Local 805, Chicago, Ill.

Local 818, Detroit, Mich.

United Construction Workers Organizing Committee

Local 135, Chicago, Ill.

Local 172, Chicago, Ill.

Local 177, Chicago, Ill.

Local 245, Melrose Park, Ill.

Miscellaneous Unions

Amalgamated Association, Newark, N. J.

Raw Deal Neal Tobin's Lackey In Area Sellout

The Tobin lackey who carried out the instructions of Dictator Tobin in selling out the demands of the area over-road drivers by referring all unsettled issues to the National Defense Mediation Board on the basis of compulsory arbitration was none other than T. T. (Raw Deal) Neal, dictator-receiver of Tobin "unions" in Minneapolis, Omaha, etc., etc.

Neal's role as Tobin's agent in the sellout, while covered up in the MINNESOTA TEAMSTER, was inadvertently revealed in the LABOR WORLD, AFL sheet published in Duluth. The Duluth paper admitted that it was Neal who sent out a letter to drivers' unions throughout the area insisting there be no "stoppage of work," and notifying the victimized over-road drivers that their demands have been thrown to the wolves on the NDMB.

Scoundrels Cry "Patriotism"

The Tobin agents are seeking to cover up their stinking betrayal of the drivers by screaming about their "patriotism." "140,000 Patriotic Teamsters Avert Over-The-Road Strike" is the heading in the MINNESOTA TEAMSTER. Editorially, the miserable Tobin rag dares to charge that those who sneer at the Tobin sellout are Hitlerites.

Patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel, the famous Dr. Johnson once aptly observed. It is under the guise of a fake "patriotism" that the labor fakers will most often carry out their sell-outs of labor in the coming war period.

United Cannery and Agricultural Workers—Signed first CIO pact with Campbell's Soup, lifting wages \$500,000 yearly. Claims 189 contracts.

International Union of United Paper, Novelty and Toy Workers—185 new locals organized. Average wage raises of 10c hourly won.

Glass, Ceramic and Silica Sand Workers—Report entire plate, safety and window glass industry under contract; union has 37 contracts covering 27,800 workers, has won raises from 2c-17c hourly.

United Stone & Allied Products Workers Union—84 new contracts.

Amalgamated Clothing Workers—For the first time in the men's apparel industry this union negotiated a contract for paid vacations. Claims wage gains for almost all of 273,000 members. Once considered one of the most progressive unions in America, this organization has been surpassed by many CIO affiliates, but the ACW may yet wrench itself out of the trough of conservatism and regain its former militancy.

Textile Workers Union—Wages in this industry have been raised from a level of 48c hourly to 60c hourly.

Retail Employees Organize

United Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Employees—Has 30,000 men covered in contracts.

Utility Workers Organizing Committee—Chartered 33 new local unions. Won \$300,000 in back pay for workers at Consolidated Edison.

Farm Equipment Workers Organizing Committee—Despite strike-breaking of AFL, made gains of 35% in membership, chiefly at International Harvester.

United Furniture Workers Union—During year organized 13,000 workers in 82 plants.

United Shoe Workers—Organized 37 new locals in year. Won 10c hourly raise for practically entire industry.

International Fur & Leather Workers Union—Claims 10,000 new members, primarily in leather division.

National Maritime Union—Reports \$3,500,000 annual increase negotiated for 30,000 seamen. Now has 119 union contracts.

Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers—Won first CIO pact ever signed with Bethlehem Steel, through strike action. Contracts negotiated have netted \$350,000,000 annual pay raises. Union has 43 contracts.

International Longshoremen & Warehousemen's Union—Wage increases of \$2,500,000 won during year, average increase of 10c hourly.

Transport Workers Union—Through readiness to resort to strike action in defense of union rights, won collective bargaining agreement from N. Y. Board of Transportation for city-owned transit lines. After protracted strike action renewed contracts with 5th Ave. Coach and N. Y. City Omnibus companies.

International Union of Fishermen & Allied Workers—Claim wage increases from 7c-15c hourly.

United Office & Professional Workers Union—Won contract at John Hancock Insurance company. Won Labor Board elections at Boston Mutual and Prudential Life. Signed pact covering 4,000 workers in direct mail advertising field in New York City.

American Newspaper Guild—Negotiated \$104,000-a-year wage increases for commercial department employees of N. Y. TIMES.

United Federal Workers—Now engaged in nation-wide drive to organize 1,250,000 government workers.

Federation of Architects—Won 15 of 16 Labor Board elections.

State, County & Municipal Workers—Added 94 locals during year.

Sign Armour, Cudahy Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee—Signed master agreements with Armour and Cudahy, covering 22 major packing plants.

Local Man Is Chosen Organizer For News Guild

Since the recent victory of the "Pro-Guild" ticket in the national election referendum in the American Newspaper Guild, a clean sweep is being made in the Guild of the Stalinist riffraff who for so long used their power in that union for their own rotten partisan ends.

A Minneapolis newspaper man is the new director of organization for the ANG. He is Wilbur Bade, who has taken a two-year leave of absence from make-up desk at the Star-Journal to take a post in the national office of the Guild.

Bade, well-known to the local CIO movement, was national campaign manager for the Pro-Guild ticket that swept the Stalinists out of office.

AFL Paper Supports Miners' Fight

In the welter of yellow, falsely "patriotic" drivels that appeared in most American Federation of Labor papers in the form of attacks upon the striking captive miners and John L. Lewis, it was good to read at least one AFL paper that had enough sense of labor solidarity to defend the United Mine Workers against the profiteering Steel Trust and Roosevelt.

The AFL paper singled out for praise in this respect is the Rockford (Ill.) LABOR NEWS, which in its November 21st issue devoted its lead story to a defense of Lewis and the miners against his boss-minded critics.

"Scandalous profiteering in the defense industries and a perpetuation of the Open Shop to further aid in piling up huge fortunes in the name of defense enter the picture as much as the beetle-browed miners' leaders, who represent men who earn their living digging coal out of the bowels of the earth," writes the LABOR NEWS' editor, Cap Brady.

Army Can't Dig Coal

"Neither the army or the navy have men who can replace the miners," the article continues. "The President can throw guards about the captive mines but it is not the solution to the problem. American citizens can not be forced to work, and Lewis knows it."

"Congress has done nothing to balk those who are bilking and robbing the nation of its wealth through exorbitant prices. These have been and are, in the opinion of most Americans, more dangerous to the welfare of our nation than the workers who seek a fair share of the profits for their labor."

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beating from your
hand-fired furnace?
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stoker made by Bry-
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about these two
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ing conveniences.



Show Way to Drivers

Chicago Dockmen Defy Tobin Decree, Strike and Win

2,500 Chicago Dockmen Win 12 1/2% Raise After Two-Day Strike—Puncture Propaganda of Bosses, Tobin

unions involved, ordering the membership to abide by the dictatorial decision reached without consulting them.

Victory in 48 Hours

The dockmen in Chicago rejected the Tobin decree and took matters in their own hands. A smashing rank-and-file victory in 48 hours punctured the boss propaganda and exposed to the light of day the cowardice and impotence of Tobin and his hired agents.

This example should drive home a powerful lesson to the over-road drivers, who can never hope to get any justice through the Tobin committee.

Fidelity State Bank

Place your Federal Housing Loans and Auto Finance with us. The bank controlled by Labor and business men is INDEPENDENT



Pliam Linoleum Co.

NEW SPRING IDEAS IN COLORINGS FOR ENTIRE HOME JUST ARRIVED

Extensive Choice, Lowest Prices
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Tuesday night a mass meeting

of strikers voted to accept a settlement bringing them a 2-year closed-shop contract, the wage raise of 12 1/2% and overtime concessions.

Two weeks ago the bosses' area committee refused the demands of the over-road men and the Chicago dockmen for wage increases and improvement in working conditions. The bosses argued that the demands would break the companies. Keeshin even dared the men to strike.

While Tobin raged and moaned in Indianapolis, the dockmen insisted the bosses must grant them substantial wage concessions before they would call off their strike.

Fearful that the strike might spread, the Chicago truck operators hurriedly met and soon agreed to a wage increase of 12 1/2%, bringing the hourly wage of the dockmen up to 67 1/2c.

The most Tobin has permitted the AFL Teamsters membership to win this year is piddling wage boosts of 6c or 8c.

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While Tobin raged and moaned in Indianapolis, the dockmen insisted the bosses must grant them substantial wage concessions before they would call off their strike.

Fearful that the strike might spread, the Chicago truck operators hurriedly met and soon agreed to a wage increase of 12 1/2%, bringing the hourly wage of the dockmen up to 67 1/2c.

The most Tobin has permitted the AFL Teamsters membership to win this year is piddling wage boosts of 6c or 8c.

Tuesday night a mass meeting

of strikers voted to accept a settlement bringing them a 2-year closed-shop contract, the wage raise of 12 1/2% and overtime concessions.

Two weeks ago the bosses' area committee refused the demands of the over-road men and the Chicago dockmen for wage increases and improvement in working conditions. The bosses argued that the demands would break the companies. Keeshin even dared the men to strike.

V. R. Dunne Defends Record of Local 544-CIO

Pioneer Unionist On Witness Stand

Defends Historic Achievements of 1934 Drivers' Strikes Against Slanderous Prosecution Attack

The vicious slanders of the prosecution in the "sedition" trial against Local 544 and its leadership made it necessary for the defense to review briefly the glorious history of the rise and growth of the union. Defendant V. R. Dunne, Local 544-CIO organizer, was the main defense witness through whom the story of the union was developed. We reprint below, from the official court record, excerpts from Ray Dunne's testimony. Note the prosecution's fear of the witness, telling the story of how Tobin refused to abide by the democratic decisions of the truck drivers:

VINCENT R. DUNNE was called as a witness on behalf of the Defendants, and having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

Q: How long have you been living in Minneapolis?

A: A little more than thirty years.

Q: And where did you live before that?

A: My home before coming to Minneapolis was at Little Falls, Minnesota.

Q: Where were you born, Mr. Dunne?

A: In Kansas City, Kansas.

Q: How old are you?

A: Fifty-two.

Q: What is your occupation at the present?

A: I am an organizer for Local 544-CIO.

Q: And how long have you been at your present occupation?

A: Since the early days of the organization of the Drivers Union in 1934.

Q: How long have you been working for the CIO?

A: Since June 9th, this year.

Q: And what were you doing before that?

A: Organizer for the Drivers' Union, AFL-544.

Q: When did you become such an organizer?

A: In 1937, that is, as an official paid organizer.

Q: And were you ever an unpaid organizer?

A: Unpaid organizer, yes, for several years before that.

Q: What did you do for a living before you became an official paid organizer?

A: I worked at various jobs that could get, including some of the governmental make-work jobs.

Q: When did you first start organizing the Truck Drivers here in Minneapolis?

First Successful Union Campaign in 1933

A: Well, it was a long process of attempting to lay a basis for the organization. A definite campaign for actual union organization, with some possibilities of success, we began in 1933, but prior to that time we had made many efforts.

During the period that I worked in the transfer industry and the general trucking industry — more particularly in the coal yards and retail coal industry — many efforts were made to organize the drivers, and they were usually not crowned with such success until 1933 or 1934.

Q: Did you work in any coal yard?

A: Yes.

Q: When did you work in a coal yard?

A: I worked for the DeLaittre-Dixon Coal Company from 1918 until 1931 — thirteen years.

Q: And what were you doing while you were working in the coal yard?

A: Well, over a period of thirteen years I did all the work that is associated with the retail delivery of coal and fuel generally — that is, drove a team, drove a truck, shoveled in the yard, ran an elevator, general work around the coal yard, and later became a weigh master, weighing out coal.

Q: Organizing Union Not Easy

Q: Was there a Local of the Teamsters Union prior to 1933?

A: Yes, there had been an AFL union here of the Teamsters for a long period of time.

Q: And how many members did that Local have?

A: Up to the organization of the coal yard workers in 1933, the General Drivers Union here had a rather unhealthy life. It had from 50 workers to sometimes 100 or two — averaging around 100 workers during a period of years.

Q: And when did the first big organizing campaign of the coal yard drivers commence?

A: Well, definitely in 1933 it resulted in the organization of the coal yard workers.

Q: Were you involved in that?

A: Yes, I was involved in the work of the coal yard organization work, although at the time of the strike I was not working. I had been discharged from my job.



Vincent R. Dunne

Fired by Boss for Speaking Against Hitler

Q: What were you discharged for?

A: I was discharged by the Fuel Distributors. The DeLaittre-Dixon Company merged with the Fuel Distributors Company, which is a Henry Ford subsidiary here, and I was transferred to that company; and during the year 1932 I was very active in organizing meetings and speaking at meetings — after hours, naturally — against the menace of the rise of Hitler in Germany.

Q: Who authorized the calling of the strike?

A: A mass meeting of the strikers themselves voted calling the strike.

Q: And which ones of the defendants do you remember, participated in that strike?

A: Practically all the men here from 544 and other defendants, such as Oscar Coover — the active trade unionists in general helped in the strike.

Q: How long did the strike last?

A: About ten or eleven days, I believe.

Q: And was there a settlement reached after that?

May Strike Forces Union Recognition

A: Yes, a settlement was reached with the employers. That is, not a contract signed — for a contract, an agreement to end the strike, grant union recognition, grant the right to represent the men, and with a small advance in wages. That is, we would call it small now — but it was really a big advance for the men at that time as the wages were very low at that period; but the agreement was not a hard and fast contract, such as we know union contracts today.

Q: Who else participated in the coal truck drivers?

A: A great many men in the coal yards. As a matter of fact, I should say that dozens of coal yard workers participated in that organization campaign.

Q: Who, of the defendants played a leading role in that campaign?

A: Mr. Smith, the manager of Fuel Distributors Company.

Q: Who else participated with you in the organization drive of the coal truck drivers?

A: A: Practically all the men here from 544 and other defendants, such as Oscar Coover — the active trade unionists in general helped in the strike.

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Business Manager DANIEL BURKE Editor MILES B. DUNNE

Roosevelt's Latest Move

As reported in detail in this issue's National Picket Line, President Roosevelt has approved the drastic anti-labor bill drawn up by the House Labor Committee, and has instructed Representative Ramspeck to report the bill in the House.

As was to be inferred from Roosevelt's recent actions against labor, all the provisions of the White House bill are directed against labor. There is nothing in the bill to penalize management in the slightest degree.

In a word, Roosevelt's "solution" to the labor situation is to force compulsory arbitration upon unions, to rob them of their right to strike, and to tear to shreds all the legislative rights won by labor in previous years.

Should any union refuse to submit its demands to compulsory arbitration, that union would lose all its rights, not only under the National Labor Relations Act, but under the Anti-Injunction and Unemployment Compensation Laws as well.

No penalties against the corporations are included in the bill. In an effort to justify this lack, Roosevelt and Attorney-General Biddle explain that the government has powers under the Selective Service Act to seize any plant where the management fails to comply with compulsory arbitration.

THE JOKER IS THAT EVEN IF THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD "SEIZE" A PLANT, THE PLANT OWNERS KNOW THAT SUCH SEIZURE WILL NOT PENALIZE THEM IN THE LEAST OR HALT THEIR PROFITS. FOR THEY WOULD BE COMPENSATED IN FULL BY THE GOVERNMENT.

From beginning to end, the Roosevelt bill is aimed ONLY at labor, is directed ONLY against labor, is DESIGNED only to weaken labor's position.

Were labor forced to forego its right to strike, the workers would have no means of utilizing their economic strength to enforce their demands. All the boss has to do is to stand pat, provoke the union into action, call upon Roosevelt to strip the union of all its legal rights, cut the union to ribbons, and bring back the Open Shop in industry.

University of Chicago Group Supports Defense

Protests FBI Attempt to Suppress Civil Liberties of Defendants — Endorses Civil Rights Defense Committee Work

The University of Chicago COMMITTEE TO FIGHT DOMESTIC FASCISM last week adopted a resolution protesting efforts of the FBI and the federal prosecutors to deprive the "seditious" defendants of their civil liberties. The university committee endorsed the work of the Civil Rights Defense Committee and pledged itself to "do all at our command to avert this and similar miscarriages of justice."

The text of the resolution adopted by the Committee to Fight Domestic Fascism follows:

WHEREAS: The University of Chicago Committee to Fight Domestic Fascism views civil liberties as a cherished aspect of our present society, particularly for labor organizations, students, and minority political parties; and

WHEREAS: twenty-nine members of Minneapolis Local 544-CIO, Motor Transport Workers Union and/or members of the Socialist Workers Party, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in St. Paul, Minnesota, on July 15, 1941, under charge of violation of the Sedition Act of 1863 and the Smith Act of 1940; and

WHEREAS: this charge consists, not in attempting an overt act against the government, but merely in maintaining a belief in the propriety of changing the governmental system of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS: The American Civil Liberties Union and National Executive Board of the Workers Defense League, two of the country's outstanding civil liberties organizations, have also condemned the government's prosecution as a serious threat to civil liberties; and

WHEREAS: the leaders of the Minneapolis Local 544-CIO Motor Transport Workers Union have been welcomed into the Congress of Industrial Organizations by President Philip Murray and other national officers, and the case of the twenty-nine has been unanimously endorsed by the United Automobile Workers' National Convention at Buffalo, New York;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The University of Chicago Committee to Fight Domestic Fascism protests the attempt of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the attempt of the federal prosecutors to deprive these twenty-nine defendants of their right to join the labor union of their choice and of their right to hold an independent political opinion, and we condemn the use of governmental agencies in such activity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that we call upon the Department of Justice to dismiss the case against these twenty-nine defendants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the University of Chicago Committee to Fight Domestic Fascism endorses the work of the Civil Rights Defense Committee, the authorized representative of the defendants, and we will do all at our command to avert this and similar miscarriages of justice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that copies of this resolution be sent to the campus and to the daily press, to the National Office of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, to Minneapolis Local 544-CIO, Motor Transport Workers Union, to the Civil Rights Defense Committee, to President Daniel J. Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and to Attorney General Francis J. Biddle.

Unanimously adopted on November 17, 1941.

(Signed) MURRAY L. WAX

On the National Picket Line

Marvel Scholl

President Roosevelt has given the "green light" to the proponents of anti-labor legislation. It seems that our magnanimous president has restrained himself as long as he could, but now that he is convinced that labor will not "behave itself" he has decided to remove his "disapproval" to such legislation, and let nature take its course.

And "Nature" in this case takes the form of Poll-tax Representative Ramspeck from Georgia. Ramspeck's bill will be reported on the floor of the House Friday, November 26. It is expected that the bill will be rushed through the legislative gin-mill as fast as possible in order to satisfy the President that "there will be no recurrence of what happened last week" (The Miners' Strike).

The Ramspeck Bill, for down-right viciousness, exceeds any previous piece of legislation yet attempted. It embodies four principles. They are—

(1) Mandatory negotiations between management and workers.

(2) Conciliation by the Department of Labor.

(3) Mediation by a statutory board EMPOWERED TO PROHIBIT STRIKES DURING THE MEDIATION PERIOD.

(4) COMPULSORY ARBITRATION.

The provisions of the bill setting up both a board with power to enforce its services and compulsory arbitration, are supplemented by stringent penalties AGAINST LABOR if any union violates the terms of the Act. They are—

"For labor, loss of rights under existing laws, particularly the National Labor Relations, the Anti-Injunction and Unemployment Compensation Laws."

The bill contains NO provision for punishment of management in case of a violation. Technically, that punishment is alleged to be "the loss of plants by governmental seizure." However, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Biddle are reported as not wanting any provisions for punishment of employers in the Ramspeck Bill because they feel that they already have sufficient powers under the Selective Service Act.

Ramspeck is reported in the New York Times as admitting that while the measure may be "pretty drastic" it will "prevent strikes in defense industry unless owners want to lose their plants and workers their rights." He assured the press that the bill contains a stipulation assuring that "it in no way infringes upon a worker's right to quit his job, but if he does so he will find himself without the protection which has made collective bargaining possible." And he added, "In effect the measure would strip a union which strikes in violation of the provisions set up under the new law of its standing under present laws, thus preventing it from claiming to represent the employees in the dispute."

It seems that this bill was approved by both the President and a "bi-partisan" group from the House in a conference called by the President at the White House last Tuesday evening. The fourth provision providing for compulsory arbitration was not settled upon at this meeting, but Speaker Rayburn is reported as assured that if this clause is included in the bill, the President will sign it. Rayburn also told the press that "the Administration doesn't want to take the hair off anyone."

The only opposition to the bill so far reported is from Representatives Smith of Virginia and Hoffman of Michigan. They are reported to be opposed to the bill because they fear that "compulsory arbitration involved too great a degree of government control over the conduct of a business and over the private rights of individuals."

It is not clear from this statement just whom Hoffman and Smith fear for. But I wouldn't take any bets on it. Hoffman and Smith undoubtedly fear that some of their employer constituents might lose their plants through violation of the bill, and thus lose the lucrative profits accruing from war contracts.

The biggest contradiction in the claim that the Ramspeck Bill provides equal punishment for both labor and capital is embodied in Amendment Five to the Constitution of the United States. No government agency can seize and hold any private property without just compensation. But under the terms of this act, the government will be able to deprive labor of its only

FLASHES from the Courtroom

Highlights in the Minneapolis "Sedition" Trial

Defendant Dunn repudiated all the slander of the Tobin agents. We are more than willing to let the workers of Minneapolis—who for years have known Vincent Dunn and also have known the Tobin agents—decide on which side the truth is.

From Anderson's cross-examination of Dunn, one gathered that the District Attorney believes it subversive to advocate and support the idea that labor should have a political party of its own, separate from and opposed to the old boss-ridden Republican and Democratic machines.

Observers in the courtroom Monday included an interested minister, and the family of V. R. Dunn. The most interested spectators at the Friday sessions were the three daughters of defendant Farrell Dobbs; they never took their eyes off their father.

Monday evening defendants eating at the commissary enjoyed the last of the Thanksgiving turkeys.

George Froisig, Roy Orgon and Ray Rainbolt followed Vincent Dunn on the witness stand.

The Indian, Rainbolt, drew many a chuckle as he testified in his salty style.

Remaining defense witnesses were the defendants Miles Dunn,

want to exterminate this party so that it won't threaten for another century."

In revolting praise of the Tobin stool pigeon, Bartlett, Anderson told the jury that "Mr. Bartlett's stature grows until he towers to the ceiling and beyond." It is certainly true that if Bartlett could stand on pile of his tall lies, he would reach to considerable heights.

At one point in his address, Anderson implied that unions no longer have the right to strike. Defense Attorney Albert Goldman immediately challenged him, and the court upheld the defense.

"Why should Bartlett want to fabricate?" Anderson asked the jury, as though that question were a stumper.

Bartlett lied because he hates the incorruptible leaders of 544-CIO—because Tobin pays him to lie—because Bartlett is ambitious to get on in the world, and doesn't mind climbing on the bodies of the best union men in Minneapolis.

Word got around Minneapolis that when Defense Attorney made his closing speech, the courtroom would hear the finest orator in the nation. Thursday the court was packed to the corners, with many disappointed persons standing in the halls listening for the sound of Goldman's voice. Several lawyers came to hear Goldman's masterly plea.

ing the rights of labor, are in the same situation in facing a reactionary government as was St. Paul when he was placed in chains.

Just as the Pharisees demanded the persecution of Christ because "he stirreth up the people," so Anderson demanded the jailing of the labor defendants because they will not conform to Anderson's idea of "law and order."

Perhaps the lowest point reached by Anderson was when he said that Ed Palmer, for his organizing WPA workers, really "should have been accused of treason," rather than just "sedition conspiracy." To Anderson it is treason to organize workers!

Prosecution Shows Anti-Labor Bias

(Continued from page 1)
the miners felt it necessary to subvert their case to arbitration.

Slanders '34 Strikes

Another outrageous instance of the prosecution's anti-labor bias came when Anderson was cross-examining V. R. Dunn, defendant and Local 544-CIO organizer.

Anderson charged Dunn and other defendants with inciting the striking truckdrivers to commit violence in the 1934 strikes. Anderson dragged out the old story about the death of Arthur Lyman, special deputy in the May, 1934 drivers' strike, seeking to convey to the jury the idea that Ray Dunn was responsible.

Earlier Schweinhaut, in questioning James P. Cannon, defendant and National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, of the

charged the party had incited the Minneapolis workers to commit violence in the 1934 strikes. Minneapolis trade unionists in the courtroom audience—including some veterans of the '34 strikes—grinned their appreciative agreement with Cannon when he answered Schweinhaut:

The special deputies in 1934 were sent to drive the workers off the streets. They got a dose of their own medicine. I think the workers have a right to defend themselves. I'm mighty proud that Trotskyites had a part in leading the workers in defense of their rights. If that is treason, you can make the most of it."

Anderson Goes the Limit
In his closing argument District

Commissary Still Needs Food

The Commissary Committee asks that friends and sympathizers of the defendants to remember that, even though the trial is almost over, the commissary itself will have to continue feeding many people for some time. Many of the defendants' families are eating there, and no matter what the outcome of the trial may be, these children still have to eat. If you care to contribute, the committee says that they need potatoes, meat, all staples, fruit, etc.

LEARN THE TRUTH!

Witch Hunt in Minnesota

By George Novack
Secretary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee

24 pages - 5c

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE MINNEAPOLIS SEDITION TRIAL

Opening statement for the defense
by Albert Goldman
16 pages - 5c for 5c

Order these pamphlets from Local 544-CIO headquarters, 9th Street and 12th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minn.

YOU Can Help The Defendants

The twenty-eight men and women who are on trial in the federal courtroom in Minneapolis are front-line fighters in the cause of union rights and civil liberties of this nation.

They merit the whole-hearted and generous moral and material support of every progressive organization and individual genuinely concerned with maintaining our democratic and constitutional rights.

Their fight against the prosecution must be won. That is why the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE has been organized. Chairman of the Committee is James T. Farrell. Vice chairman is John Dos Passos. Secretary is George Novack. Scores of outstanding laborites, educators, civil liberty defenders, liberals have joined the national board of the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE.

The government prosecution has been denounced by the CIO, Labor's Non-Partisan League, the United Auto Workers, the American Civil Liberties Union, THE NATION, THE NEW REPUBLIC, etc.

The CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE needs \$7,500 immediately to defray the heavy costs of fighting this case. Aid the 28 defendants by contributing promptly and generously to their Defense Fund. Mail all donations to the

Civil Rights Defense Committee

c/o Industrial Organizer, 1328 Second St. N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

A receipt will be mailed you from the Industrial Organizer and from the national office of the Civil Rights Defense Committee.